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### Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Vol. 8, No. 11

November/December 1989

#### Q & A From Municipal Recycling Workshops

With the assistance of regional recycling coordinators, the DEP Recycling Program staff held a series of 8 workshops for municipal recycling coordinators throughout the state during the months of October and November. The workshops provided participants with information on how to effectively publicize municipal recycling programs, and how to establish or improve programs for composting leaves and recycling scrap metal, waste oil, storage batteries, newspaper, corrugated cardboard, and office paper. In addition, workshop participants shared their recycling successes.

Below are answers to questions that were raised at the workshops which may be of interest to the rest of our readers:

#### Waste Oil Collection

Q: How long can the town hold waste oil? Will it go "bad"?

A: Used crankcase oil from a car will keep indefinitely. Hold your oil as long you have storage capacity in your tank or until you have a quantity acceptable to your transporter/market.

Q: Are there any figures for estimating waste oil collection tank size for a given population?

A: Each vehicle in your town will generate approximately 5 quarts per year of used motor oil (based on one change per year). Multiply this by the number of vehicles registered in your town to get an estimate of how much used oil will be generated each year. The number of do-it-yourself oil changers will vary with the demographics of each area. You should also talk to other towns or a waste oil transporter to determine the appropriate tank size for your town.

Q: Does the DEP have information on the problems associated with improper oil disposal and the benefits of recycling (e.g., how oil contaminates the environment, and energy saved in using recycled oil, etc.)?

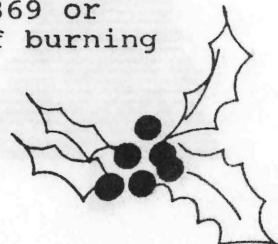
A: The U.S. EPA has published a number of good pamphlets and a booklet on waste oil recycling that contain this type of information. Check with your regional coordinator to see if he/she has any copies of the pamphlets and booklet available. If the region does not have copies, you can contact the EPA directly at (800) 553-7672 or (800) 424-9346. The pamphlets are:

"Recycling Used Oil: What Can You Do?" (EPA/530-SW-89-039B)

"Recycling Used Oil: 10 Steps to Change Your Oil" (EPA/530-SW-89-039C), and "Recycling Used Oil: For Service Stations and Other Vehicle-Service Facilities" (EPA/530-SW-89-039D), and the booklet is called "How to set up a Local Program to Recycle Used Oil" (EPA/530-SW-89-039A). There is no charge for the publications.

Q: What are the requirements and regulations that must be followed if a municipality wants to burn used oil?

A: Waste oil must meet certain fuel specifications and the boiler must meet certain design standards if a municipality burns the oil it collects. Contact George Dews, DEP, at 566-4869 or Dave Nash, DEP, 566-6682 for the specific requirements of burning waste oil.



Q: Is there a way to test for hazardous contaminants in waste oil?

A: Yes, there is at least one kit on the market that can detect the presence of chlorinated solvents or any halogen (but not other contaminants). The kit is called Chlor-D-Tect 1000. To obtain information about the kit contact the Dexsil Corporation, One Hamden Park Drive, Hamden, CT 06517 (David Perrelli at 288-3509). The kit costs approximately \$8 per test (less expensive in greater quantities) and can be performed by anyone. We welcome additional vendors of test kits to forward their names to the DEP for inclusion on a list. Inclusion does not mean that DEP endorses the product or service listed. You can also send waste oil to a lab for a more comprehensive analysis (and a higher price).

#### **Markets Plan Completed**

The Connecticut Department of Economic Development is pleased to announce that it has completed a plan for developing in-state markets for recovered materials. This plan, prepared by Mount Auburn Associates, highlights a host of market development opportunities for newspaper, steel cans, and plastics. Connecticut's development agencies (DED, Connecticut Development Authority, and Connecticut Innovations, Inc.) are now beginning to target support and promotion strategies for Connecticut industries that use recycled material.

For more information, contact Joe Flynn at 258-4277.

#### **DOE Information Available**

The Department of Energy has two recycling factsheets, "Recycling Waste to Save Energy" and "Municipal Resource Recovery", that are available free of charge by calling 1-800-523-2929.

#### **MEETINGS**

**6th Annual Conference on Solid Waste Management and Materials Policy** will be held on January 31 through February 2, 1990 at the New York Penta Hotel. More information is available from the NY State Legislative Commission on Solid Waste Management at (212) 459-9260.

**13th Annual Landfill Gas Symposium** will be held on March 27-29, 1990, at the Marriot's Lincolnshire Resort in Chicago, Illinois. Steve Hirshfield has more information at 1-800-456-4723.

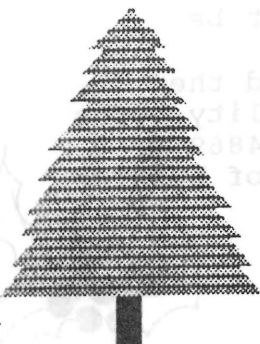
**New England Environmental Expo '90** will be held on April 10-12, 1990, at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, MA. Information is available at (617) 489-2302.

**National Waste Expo '90** will be held May 1-4, 1990, in Atlanta, Georgia. Information available at 1-800-424-2869.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!!!!

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